

THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL.

WILMINGTON, N. C., MONDAY, MAY 21, 1852.

Authorized Agents for the Journal.
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DR. SARGENT, Strickland's Depot, Duplin County.
B. BARNES, Black Creek, Wayne County.
LEWIS JONES, Pink Hill P. O., Lenoir County.

Resignation of Judge Berrien.

Judge Berrien has resigned his seat in the Senate of the United States, to take effect on the 30th inst., and Gov. Cobb has appointed Judge Charlton, of Savannah, to fill Mr. Berrien's unexpired term, which terminates on the 3d of March next, with the present Congress, when Mr. Toombs enters the Senate for six years.

Rather a New Move in South Carolina.

A meeting was held in Charleston on the 16th inst., for the purpose of taking measures for having that State represented in the Whig National Convention. According to general received opinions, a Whig delegation from South Carolina would have rather a slim constituency—in fact, the party might go en masse.

The steamship Cambria arrived at Halifax on the 26th inst., with Liverpool dates up to the evening of the 15th.

The French fleet of the 10th of May had passed over without any proclamation of the Empire. The fleet was purely military, consisting of 60,000 troops, with half a million of citizens and strangers as spectators.

The Prince President Napoleon arrived on the ground, at noon, at the head of a brilliant staff, and reviewed the soldiers. He presented standards to the Colonels, surrounded by the imperial eagle.

Napoleon subsequently addressed the army, saying: "that the Roman eagle, adopted by the Emperor Napoleon, was the emblem of the regeneration and grandeur of France. It disappeared with her misfortunes, and ought to return when France had recovered from her defeats and was again mistress of herself, seeming no longer to repudiate her own glory."

Resume then, soldiers, these eagles, not as a menace against foreigners, but as a symbol of independence, as the symbol of a heroic people, and a pledge to die, if need be, in defence of the emblems so often led by our fathers to victory."

This address was immediately placarded throughout the city.

A motion has been made in the British House of Commons enquiring into the system of education pursued at the Catholic College at Maynooth, Ireland, and an amendment added to consider the bill to repeal the Maynooth College endowment, and all other grants for religious instruction. A resolution to abolish the stamp and advertisement tax upon newspapers has been rejected.

The Crystal Palace, which was purchased for £70,000, is to be immediately re-erected at Sydenham, for an exotic garden.

A HINT FOR THE FUTURE WHIG MINISTERS.—The only Whig politician whose name will come near rhyming with Scott, is Botts, which, unfortunately, has a letter too much; but it is the only chance, therefore give him Botts.

Proceedings of the Council of State—Called Session of the Legislature.

Pursuant to a call of the Governor, the Council of State met in this City on the 18th inst., and a quorum not appearing, the Council adjourned to the 20th, when a quorum was in attendance. Wilson S. Hill, Esq., was chosen President, and Mr. W. H. Jones, Secretary.

We have been permitted to copy, for the information of our readers, the proceedings of the Council in relation to a called session of the Legislature.

The following communication was received from Gov. Reid, and considered:

EXECUTIVE OFFICE,

Richmond, May 20, 1852.

GENTLEMEN: The construction placed on the 2d clause of the 1st section of the 3d article of the Constitution of the United States, requires the vote for President and Vice President, in 1852 to be according to the Constitution of 1850. This is a matter generally acquiesced in, and will, I presume, be adopted by all the States. Although I have not been officially informed of the fact, yet it is well understood that North Carolina, according to the late apportionment, will only be entitled to ten Electoral votes in the next election. The act of the General Assembly of 1850, in a session of 1852-3 divided the State into 11 Electoral districts. Therefore the act of Assembly provides for the election of eleven Electors, while the State under the late apportionment will only be entitled to ten Electoral votes. The next election for President and Vice President will take place before the regular period appointed by law for the meeting of the General Assembly. It is provided by law that the Governor may, with the advice of the Council of State, call a meeting of the General Assembly, if the same shall be absolutely necessary, at a sooner date than the same may be adjourned to, or appointed to meet. I submit to your consideration, whether under the circumstances it does not become necessary to convene the General Assembly at an earlier date than is provided by law for its regular meeting, to have further legislation to avoid illegality in the election for President and Vice President. If your body should adopt the purpose I have mentioned, the question then arises as to the most appropriate time for the meeting. It occurs to me that it should be called together till after the next August election.

The Constitution provides that "the Senate of this State shall consist of fifty representatives, biennially chosen by ballot, and to be elected by districts; which districts shall be laid off by the General Assembly, at its first session after the year one thousand eight hundred and forty-one, and thereafter at each session, until the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-one." It is also provided that the apportionment of the members of the House of Commons "shall be made by the General Assembly, at the respective times and periods when the districts for the Senate are herein before directed to be laid off; and a census or enumeration shall be called together before the regular period, it would of course be a session, and the first after the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-one. The language of the Constitution is not the first regular and biennial session, but "at its first session." It would, therefore, seem that if the Legislature is convened the Constitution requires the Senatorial districts to be laid off and the members of the House of Commons to be apportioned. If it is convened before the next August election it will be composed of members chosen in 1850, who, I presume, were not elected with a view to laying off the Senatorial districts and apportioning the members of the House of Commons. I therefore submit to you a regard for public interest and respect for the Constitution, that the time for convening the General Assembly should be postponed till the first Monday in October next. The Legislature then called together would be fresh from the people, and fully prepared to reflect their will on these subjects and all others.

The next session of the General Assembly will in all probability be one of more than ordinary length, laying off the Senatorial districts and apportioning the members of the House of Commons, and acting upon the Report of the Commissioners appointed to revise the Statutes, added to the ordinary business of legislation, will protract the session. The people might go on and in their primary meetings nominate their candidates for Electors, and the General Assembly, when convened, would have the necessary act in time for the Presidential election. The Legislature could then proceed to lay off the Senatorial districts and apportion the members of the House of Commons; repeal, for the session, the act fixing the time for the meeting of the General Assembly, and then act upon the Report of

the Committee appointed to revise the Statutes, or upon any other business of legislation. In this way it seems to me the expense and inconvenience of an extra session might be avoided.

This communication, you will observe, is predicated upon the fact that the term of the members of the Legislature commences at the regular biennial election in August. Upon this point I think there can be no doubt. It has been said that this construction would operate as an inconvenience, for if the office of Governor were to become vacant after the election in August, there would be no Speaker of the Senate to succeed him. Even admitting this to be true, it argues nothing; for we all know that an inconvenience experienced from a provision in the Constitution does not authorize us to change its construction. The Constitution provides that members of the Assembly shall be biennially chosen. All seem to admit that they are elected for a term of two years. In 1853 the Constitution was amended, and instead of each county having a Senator and two members of the House of Commons, a different mode of representation was substituted. Although the amended Constitution was ratified in November, 1853, an ordinance of the Convention postponed its operation till the 1st of January, 1856. The Constitution which was then in force, abolished the Assembly elected under the old Constitution, and consequently the first Assembly chosen under the new Constitution was elected at the summer elections of 1856. The term of the members of that Assembly commenced from the election. If the term commenced at the election then, it must be so now, for the Constitution has not been changed since that time.

I most respectfully ask your advice in relation to convening the General Assembly.

I am, very respectfully,

Your obt. servant,

DAVID S. REID.

TO THE COUNCIL OF STATE.

WHEREUPON IT WAS ORDERED, that the Council of State do advise the Governor to call a session of the members of the General Assembly to be elected in August next, to meet in the City of Raleigh, on the first Monday in October next, as proposed in the preceding communication.

No further business coming before the Council that body adjourned.

W. S. HILL, Pres. of Coun.

The Obstructions at the Mouth of the Mississippi.

The New Orleans Chamber of Commerce have memorialized Congress on the importance of removing the existing obstructions at the mouth of the Mississippi, and state that some idea may be formed of the immensity of the outward current of trade through it from the average annual quantity and value of the following articles, which are the chief bulk of the commerce of the productions of the South and West, which seek their market through this obstructed channel:

1,000,000 bales cotton	Value, \$3,000,000
60,000 hogsheads tobacco	4,500,000
50,000 hogsheads sugar	2,500,000
100,000 barrels molasses	900,000
100,000 barrels flour	2,400,000
375,000 barrels pork	1,500,000
39,000 hogsheads bacon	3,500,000
1,150,000 kegs lead	4,200,000
32,000 barrels beef	350,000
400,000 kegs pig lead	1,200,000
800,000 sacks corn	800,000
Slalaking together the sum of	\$29,904,000

Add to this a variety of other products, amounting by well authenticated records to \$30,000,000, and an aggregate of \$59,904,000 will be shown to be the amount of this outward current of trade.

They state also that within the last few weeks, nearly forty ships have been aground on the bar, for various periods, from two days to eight weeks, some of which were compelled to throw portions of their cargo overboard, and others to discharge cargo into lighters, before they could be towed through the shoal, occasioning heavy expense to the goods, and great straining, injury, and loss of rigging, anchors and cables to the vessels; and say that they cannot estimate the fixed and certain loss from these detentions at less than \$500,000, independent of the contingent loss arising from fluctuations and loss of market, consequent upon the delay of merchandise shipped to such ports as Louisville and New Orleans, which may be entirely changed by the undue detention of the property in New Orleans.

They further state that the duties of importations on productions brought into the country through this channel within the last year, and collected in the City of New Orleans, was \$2,200,790; which added to \$700,000 collected there, but collected in the ports of Cincinnati, Louisville and New Orleans, make a total of near three millions of dollars of revenue which goes into the coffers of the Federal Government. They do not recommend the undertaking of any gigantic and costly work with a view of permanently deepening the channel over the bar; but the opinion of almost all scientific men, who have given much consideration to the subject, is that the belief that an annual appropriation of from \$100,000 to \$150,000 will be sufficient to induce parties owning steam boats to contract to keep the channel open by constantly raking up the mud, so that the current of the river can diffuse and carry it forward into deeper water; and they believe that such parties would be willing to make this compensation contingent upon the actual results of their work.

In conclusion they state, that relying upon the liberality which Congress has always displayed in matters concerning national interests, much less important than those referred to in their memorial, they respectfully request that such appropriations as the case require may be forthwith made, and that a naval and military force be sent to New Orleans, and the port of New Orleans to make all needful contracts in the premises.

DOG SELLING EXTRAORDINARY.—Two ladies, friends of a near relative of my own, from whom I received an account of the circumstance, were walking in Regent's Street, London, on the 17th inst., when they observed a man who was carrying a large white bear, which he carried in his arms. Such things are not uncommon in that part of London, and the ladies passed on without heeding him. He followed, and repeated his entreaties, stating, that as it was the last he had to sell, they should have it at a reasonable price. They looked at the animal; it was really an exquisite little creature, and they were persuaded. The man took it home for them, received his money, and left the dog in the arms of one of the ladies. A short time elapsed, and the dog, which had been very quiet, in spite of a restless bright eye, began to show symptoms of uneasiness, and as he ran about the room, exhibited some unusual movements, which rather surprised the ladies. At last, to their great dismay, the new dog ran squeaking up one of the window curtains, so that when the gentleman returned home a few minutes after, he found the ladies in consternation, and right glad to have his assistance. He vigorously seized the animal, took out his pen knife, cut off its covering, and displayed a large rat, which he estimated at about half a crown, and was about to sell it. —Mrs. Lee's Anecdotes of Animals.

THE MORRIS WIFE SYSTEM.—We take the following from a letter to the St. Louis Intelligencer from "Salt Lake City," said to be from a reliable source.

In relation to the wife system, I will begin with Brigham. He, as I have before stated, has about fifty—among them two sisters. Heber C. Kemble and Wm. Richards also have harems of women from ten to thirty. In fact, all the leading men in the Mormon Church have from two to ten. There are several instances here where men have married widows, who have daughters, and now have the mother and daughter both as wives. Heber C. Kemble has the mother and daughter; A. M. Tappin has a mother and daughter; C. E. Bidart, has mother and daughter; also John Taylor. In fact, all the head men have more or less—it is more usual to see a family with but one wife, than to see one with two or ten. Yet, as a rule, the women are not married, but it is the most positive terms. To look at Mormonism as it is in this valley, one would think that if there was any system in the world that has been gotten up and propagated by the devil, it is of the people called Latter Day Saints.

THE JAPAN EXPEDITION.—The N. Y. Herald says it learns from practical and reliable sources—through the medium of some of the officers of the Dutch frigate, Prince of Orange, now lying off Castle Garden—that we shall have a tough job in getting the Japanese to consent to a commercial intercourse with us; and so far from obtaining a peaceable negotiation for the purpose, the Emperor of Japan is making preparations to give us a warm greeting, and to have the most strongly fortified every part of his coast, and that he has a nation of well equipped soldiers ready to pounce down upon us. They agree in thinking that our force is utterly inadequate to the task of making an entry into the City of Jeddo.

Highly Interesting Correspondence.—Declaration of the Democratic Candidates for the Presidency for the Compromise.

The Hon. Robert G. Scott, of Richmond, Va., the Democratic Elector for President in that district, a few days ago, addressed a letter to all the Democratic candidates spoken of for the Presidency, asking their opinion on the compromise measures, particularly the fugitive slave law. Several answers have been returned, the substance of which is thus furnished in the New York Herald.

Gen. Houston replied, under date of the 21st inst., that he voted for all the measures embraced in the compromise bill, severally, and has since seen no cause to change his views. He declares that he would not hesitate to veto any bill impairing the law for the protection of the constitutional rights which guarantees to the people of the South the possession and enjoyment of their slave property.

Gen. Cass also replied, under date of the 24th inst., declaring his acquiescence in all the compromise measures. He expresses the opinion that it would be the duty of a President to veto any bill that weakened or impaired the fulfillment of the constitutional obligation to deliver up fugitive slaves, as enforced by the Fugitive Slave Law. He declares the sacrifice of individual liberty, in order to secure the preservation of the Union, to be a duty every citizen owes his country and the preservation of the Union.

John Douglas also writes under the same date. He adverts to his past public career, as showing his opinions as to the compromise measures, and says his views have undergone no change. He does not hesitate to state expressly, that it is the duty of every true American to oppose the repeal or modification of the fugitive slave law, and that he would not yield the fulfillment of the constitutional obligation on that subject. Yet he would not yield the patronage of the government to influence the Legislature on that or any other subject.

Col. W. R. King, of Alabama, writes that he acquiesces in the compromise. He regards the fugitive slave law, not in the light of ordinary legislation, but that it is to carry out a constitutional guarantee, and the President ought to enforce any act the effect of which would be to impair or weaken its efficacy.

Daniel S. Dickinson, of New York, has replied that he acquiesces in all the compromise measures; but that he is not a candidate for the Presidency, having long since expressed a preference for a distinguished statesman, (Gen. Cass.) He considers it the duty of the President to veto any measures which in any way would impair the efficacy of the fugitive slave law. Gen. Cass has replied, by taking the same decided stand with the foregoing, but disclaims any aspirations for the Presidency. He avows his preference for General Houston over all others.

Several other replies have been written.

Central Africa.

After passing Tura, says Bayard Taylor in his last letter from the White Nile, a mountain range, some distance from the river, appeared, and the country pale violet blue showed with fine effect behind the dark line of the gum forests. With every hour of our progress, the vegetation grew more rank and luxuriant. On the eastern bank the gum gave place to the flowering mimosa, which rose in a dense rampart from the water's edge and filled the air with the fragrance of its blossoms. Myriads of wild geese, ducks, cranes, herons, and ibis sat on the narrow banks of sand or circled in the air with hoarse clang and croaking. Among them I saw more than one specimen of that rare and curious water-bird, whose large, horny bill curves upward instead of downward, so that it appears to have been put on the wrong way. As he eats nothing but small fish, which he swallows with his head under water, he does not suffer a great inconvenience as one would suppose. The bar which occasionally made out into the current served as a resting place for crocodiles, which now begin to appear in companies of ten or fifteen, and the forests were filled with legions of apes, which leaped chattering down from the branches to look at us. A whole family of them sat down on the bank for some time, watching us, and when we frightened them away by our shouts, they would crawl to another place up the river, and scamp off with it under her arm. The wild fowl were astonishingly tame, and many of them so fat that they seemed scarcely able to fly. Here and there, along the shore, large broods of the young were making their first essays in swimming. The boatmen took great delight in menacing the old birds with pieces of wood, in order to make them rise up and under water, and then to catch them, and pluck them, and roast them along the edges of their wings, and I saw two or more of the crested king-birds.

After passing the island of Tscheshi, the river, which still retains its great breadth, is bordered by a swampy growth of reeds. It is filled with numerous low islands, covered with trees, mostly dead, and with waste, white ranches which have drifted down the river. In the distance, the shore was marked by a line of palm trees, and the shore many trees have also been killed by the high water of last summer. There are no inhabitants on this part of the river, but all is wild, and lonely, and magnificent. I have seen no sail since leaving Khartoum, and as the sun to night threw his last rays on the mighty flood, I felt for the first time that I was alone, far in the savage heart of Africa, and that I was surrounded by a hostile and dangerous world. The low islands, or if dipping into the gloom of the shadows thrown by the unpruned forests. The innumerable swarms of wild birds filled the air with their noise, as they flew to their coverts or ranged themselves in compact files on the sand. Above all their din, I heard at intervals, from the unseen thickets inland, the hoarse, guttural cry of a lion, and the low, deep-toned and powerful roar of a leopard, and we all decided that it was a lion. As I was watching the snowy cranes and silvery herons that alighted on the boughs within pistol-shot, my men pointed out a huge hippopotamus, standing in the reeds, but a short distance from the vessel. He was between five and six feet high, but his head, body and legs were of enormous size. He was looking up at us, and his long, thin, swine-like head was in the air, and plunged hastily into the water. At the same instant an immense crocodile (perhaps 20 feet in length) left his basking place on the sand and took refuge in the river. Soon afterward two hippopotamuses rose in the centre of the stream, and, after snorting the water from their noses, they swam to the shore, and, with a powerful splash, like the lowest rumbling note of a double bass. The consort was continued by others, and I still hear them from time to time. This is Central Africa, as I dreamed it—a grand though savage picture, full of life and with a barbaric splendor even in the forms of Nature.

It is 9 o'clock, and we have passed the Island Hassan, which is a small, low, sandy island, and are burning brightly on the western bank. The wind now blows from the north, and, to morrow, as I will bring me to the point beyond which I dare not go.

The National Intelligencer is publishing a series of letters from a citizen of Washington, who is traveling in the West. In his last letter he thus speaks of the women of the West: "The women of the West are not only more beautiful than those of the East, but they are more intelligent. In my rambles about the village of Banblek, I was struck with the beauty of the children, and the extreme youthfulness of some of the Arab mothers. I saw several young females, not more than twelve or fourteen years of age, with babies in their arms, evidently their own, and I was told that this is quite common throughout Syria. Many of the women are very beautiful—much more so, I think, than the Circassian or the Turkish women. It was quite enchanting to see their fine complexions, dark eyebrows and flashing eyes; and for regularity and delicacy of features, I have seldom seen them equalled anywhere. In the West, the women are more beautiful than in the East. In Nazareth, I saw some of the best forms of beauty I have ever seen. I had never seen in any country; I believe it is noted as much for the beauty of its female population among tourists as for its historical interest, but at no place did I see what I really thought approached the perfection of beauty in so high a degree as in Bethlehem. The women of Bethlehem are absolute beauties. I saw some of the best forms of beauty I have ever seen. I had never seen in any country; I believe it is noted as much for the beauty of its female population among tourists as for its historical interest, but at no place did I see what I really thought approached the perfection of beauty in so high a degree as in Bethlehem. The women of Bethlehem are absolute beauties. I saw some of the best forms of beauty I have ever seen. 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